Purpose
The purpose of this straw ballot is to incorporate language clarifying the term “specialized tools”

Background
Auditors have interpreted “specialized tools” to mean that if access ports are secured using screws they are to be secured with some screw head configuration other than ones which may be removed using tools typically found in a home tool assortment (and assumed to therefore be easily accessed by children) such as a slot or Phillips-head screwdriver. The problem here is that auditors are left to interpret standard language and applying their interpretation in performance of field audits.

This issue paper was presented at the 2018 Wastewater Technology Joint Committee meeting and was motioned to be sent to the WWT Task Group on Access ports, which discussed this topic during an April 9, 2019 teleconference. An r1 straw ballot drew some comments, which were discussed during a 7-9-19 Task Group call. The group agreed to try a different approach, by defining the term security fastener. This method is used in other NSF/ANSI Standards.

Please note that while the group did discuss additional safety measures that may be incorporated into access ports, the focus of this ballot is only on the highlighted / strikethrough language. A separate issue paper to charge the group with looking into secondary containment requirements has already been submitted.

The grey highlighted portions of the language are proposed additions to the language of the standard. The strikeout portions of the language are proposed deletions to the language of the standard.

An affirmative (yes) vote on this straw ballot means you agree with the revised language as submitted.

A negative (no) vote on this straw ballot means you disagree with the revised language as submitted. A negative vote must include an explanation of why you disagree with the revised draft.
NSF/ANSI Standard
For Wastewater Technology –

Residential Wastewater Treatment Systems

3 Definitions

3.XX security fastener: A specifically designed fastener that requires a tool other than a slotted or Philips driver for installation or removal.

5 Design and construction

5.7 Access ports

5.7.1 The system shall be demonstrated to have ground-level access ports that are sized and located to facilitate the installation, removal, sampling, examination, maintenance, and servicing of components and compartments that require routine maintenance and inspection.

The ground-level access ports shall be of sufficient size and located so as to allow for the following:

— visual inspection and removal of all mechanical or electrical components;

— periodic cleaning or replacement of components and removal of residuals as required by the manufacturer in the operations and maintenance manual;

   NOTE — Periodic refers to all procedures specified in the manufacturer's operation and maintenance manual that must be performed within intervals of two years.

— visual inspection and sampling as required by the manufacturer in the operations and maintenance manual, including a means for collecting a representative effluent sample and determining the need for residuals removal; and

— removal (manually or by pumping) of collected residuals as required by the manufacturer in the operations and maintenance manual. If the operations and maintenance manual describes a means to determine the need to remove residuals from a chamber without ground-level access, then only the ability to install ground-level access shall be required. Systems without ground-level access to a chamber shall be equipped with a means to locate the opening to the chambers. This information shall be provided on or in a ground-level access opening.
5.7.2 Access ports shall be protected against unauthorized intrusions. Acceptable protective measures include, but are not limited to:

- a padlock;
- a cover that can be removed only with specialized tools installed using security fasteners; or
- a cover having a minimum net weight of 29.5 kg (65 lb).